

Research Translation at Berkeley: Applying Knowledge to Solve Problems

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Overall approach

- Identify audiences, then their issues and concerns
 - Develop communication networks
- Work out ways to apply SBRP knowledge and expertise to address policy and community issues
 - Move into policy contexts (for selected topics)

Linking researchers



Robert Tjian, director of Health Sciences Initiative for all Berkeley departments, discusses the importance of interdisciplinary work and connections to practice audiences at our May 2006 kickoff.

Building community



Wendell Bruner, Public Health Director, Contra Costa County, Joan Reiss, the Breast Cancer Fund

Building knowledge



Chris Vulpe explaining virtues of yeast, May 2006

First project

- **Biomonitoring for California**
- Key issue identified by our community stakeholders
- They wanted assistance in understanding technologies and opportunities for use in surveillance and policy
- We introduced the idea of adding the use of “omics” methods in a state program

Use of biomonitoring data

- Most discussions have been about:
 - use in research studies
 - improve or validate risk/exposure assessment approaches
 - to assess public health intervention
- Much less on use in surveillance and policy

SB 1379 (Perata and Ortiz)

- Healthy Californians Biomonitoring Program, introduced in 2006
 - Sponsored by The Breast Cancer Fund and Commonweal
- Key issues:
 - Is biomonitoring “scientific”?
 - What should be included?
 - Should participants be able to see their results?
 - Should there be state level biomonitoring or also more targeted projects?

**Uses of Data from Biomonitoring in
Environmental Public Health Surveillance and Policy
July 28, 2006
Chancellor's Room, Laurel Heights Conference Center**

- 10:00** Welcome. Martyn T. Smith, UCB
- 10:05** Introduction of participants and opening comments
- 10:20** Uses of Biomonitoring data for Environmental Public Health Surveillance and Policy: Overview of Approach - Amy D. Kyle, UCB
- 10:50** D. What we have learned about uses of biomonitoring in surveillance and policy from experiences in occupational health? John R. Balmes, UCSF and Michael DiBartolomeis, CDHS
- 11:10** Discussion by participants: *What lessons can we learn from past experiences with using biomonitoring in occupational health?*
- 11:30** Case Studies - Kevin Marsee, UCB/UCSF Joint Medical Program
- 1. Biomonitoring of phthalates in NHANES by CDC**
- 2. Biomonitoring of pesticides and pesticide residues.**
Discussant: Kim Harley, CHAMACOS study team
- 12:00** Lunch on your own (cafeteria on site)
- 1:00** **3. Pilot study of multiple contaminants in umbilical cord blood**
Discussant: Sonya Lunder, Environmental Working Group
- 1:20** Discussion by participants: *What are the policy relevant questions that we hope to answer using biomonitoring data? How would you modify those we developed?*
- 1:45** G. Current capacity and proposals for biomonitoring programs for California
Comments regarding legislative proposals -- Davis Baltz, Commonwealth
- 2:15** H. Future opportunities in the age of "omics" - Martyn T. Smith, UCB



Measuring chemicals in Californians

Keeping up with its reputation as a leader in environmental protection, California plans to launch a biomonitoring program to measure the chemical load in residents across the state. The California Environmental Contaminant Biomonitoring Program, signed into law by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R) on September 29, will be the first state-sponsored effort in the U.S.

Periodically measuring certain biomarkers in humans can indicate long-term exposure to chemi-

cals, and the results can be useful when setting priorities for which chemicals to control. The data help to identify trends—for example, in at-risk populations—and to determine whether prevention methods or regulations have had their intended effects, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Public-health specialists and epidemiologists say that biomonitoring is gaining in importance, especially as small-scale, locally



Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R) signed a bill on September 29 establishing a California-wide biomonitoring program to track chemicals in humans for public-health and regulatory issues.

focused initiatives. A program tracking several thousand people in New York City, for example,

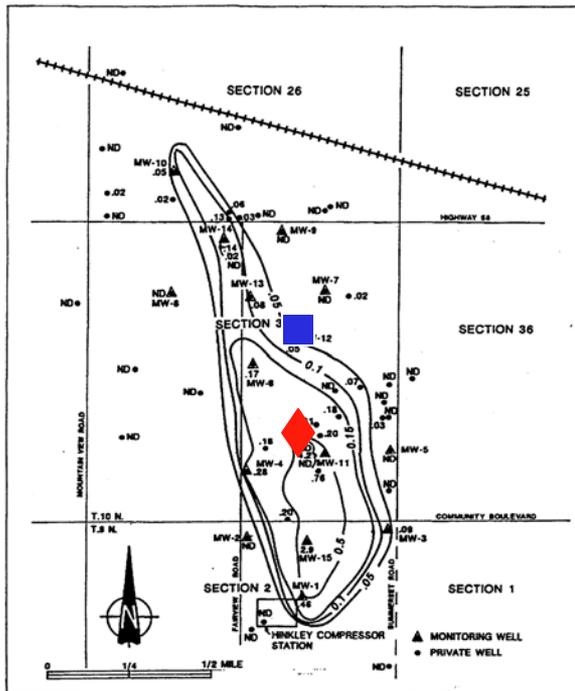
Next steps

- January workshop on implementation of the bill
- Develop use of “omics” technologies
- Chemicals policy issues

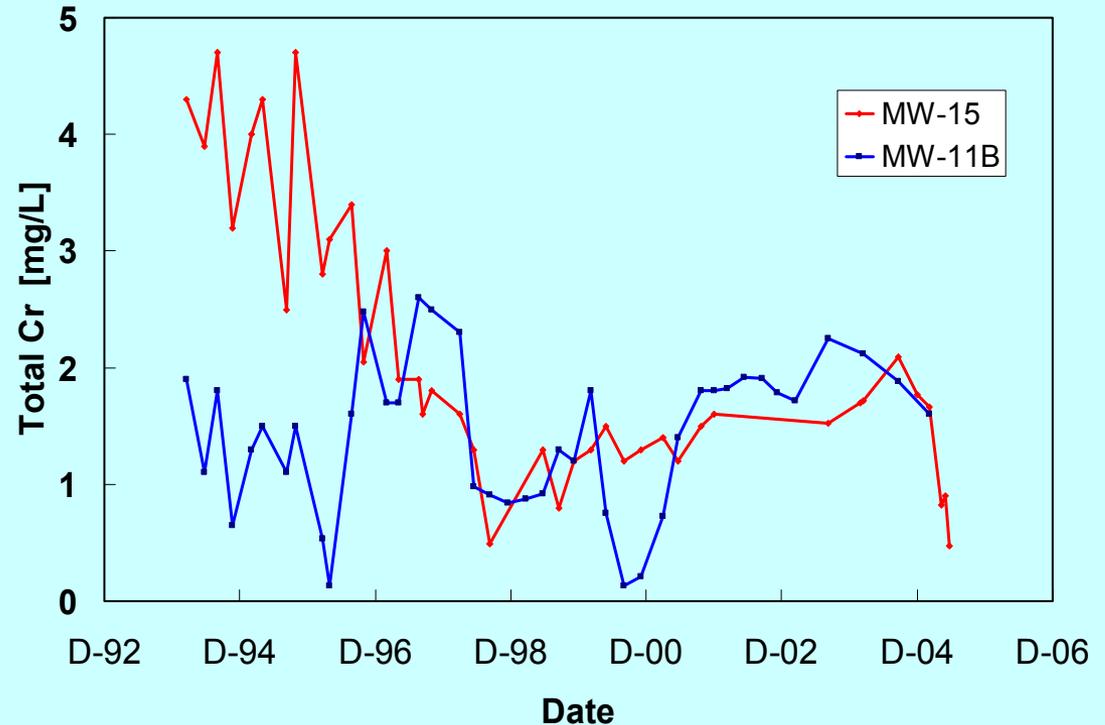
Engineering Sciences

Chromate Remediation in Groundwater at Hinkley, CA

1988



Monitoring Well Data



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